

## **April 5 Update**

On Friday evening April 2, a fishing vessel operating off Indian River Bay, Delaware, inadvertently ran across and severed the line connecting the telemetry tracking buoy to the entangled right whale, Kingfisher.

It is not believed that the whale was hit. The skipper reported the incident and returned the tracking device to the disentanglement network. Without the regular signal from the buoy, it could be difficult to relocate this whale.

Right Whales are traveling north to their spring feeding grounds now. The whale's mother has been sighted on these known feeding grounds in the past, and aerial sighting surveys for right whales in major habitat areas in the Northeast are beginning now. There is a chance that the whale may be sighted and retagged with a telemetry buoy. The response team continues to prepare for a rescue/disentanglement mission. Anyone sighting this entangled right whale, or any entangled whale, is urged to call the Distentanglement hotline at 800-900-3622, or report the sighting to the U.S. Coast Guard on VHF 16.